

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff,

v.

MIHAI ELEKES,

Defendant.

Case No. CR11-309-JCC

**DETENTION ORDER**

Offenses charged:

Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud and Possession of Device Making Equipment.

Date of Detention Hearing: September 26, 2011.

The Court, having conducted a detention hearing pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f), and based upon the factual findings and statement of reasons for detention hereafter set forth, finds that no condition or combination of conditions which the defendant can meet will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required and the safety of any other person and the community.

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DETENTION**

The government proffered defendant is a Romanian citizen who is part of an international conspiracy to commit debit, credit, bank and identification fraud. Defendant's activities have

1 been on-going for several years and at this point involve approximately \$400,000 in losses. He  
2 has close ties to individuals in Romania and there is indication that money from the charged  
3 conspiracy is going back to Romania. The evidence against defendant is strong based on  
4 photographic evidence and evidence found when defendant was arrested. Essentially, the  
5 government proffered defendant was caught red-handed. If convicted, he faces a mandatory  
6 term of 2 years for identification fraud consecutive to any sentence imposed on the other counts.  
7 His convictions would likely result in deportation. Given the length of sentence defendant faces  
8 and the likelihood of deportation, defendant presents a serious risk of flight. Given the long-term  
9 nature of the alleged offense, the loss amounts and the difficulty in monitoring or preventing  
10 such activity, defendant poses a serious risk of harm to the community.

11 It is therefore **ORDERED**:

12 (1) Defendant shall be detained pending trial and committed to the custody of the  
13 Attorney General for confinement in a correctional facility separate, to the extent practicable,  
14 from persons awaiting or serving sentences, or being held in custody pending appeal;

15 (2) Defendant shall be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with  
16 counsel;

17 (3) On order of a court of the United States or on request of an attorney for the  
18 Government, the person in charge of the correctional facility in which Defendant is confined  
19 shall deliver the defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in  
20 connection with a court proceeding; and

21 (4) The clerk shall direct copies of this order to counsel for the United States, to  
22 counsel for the defendant, to the United States Marshal, and to the United States Pretrial Services

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1 Officer.

2 DATED this 23rd day of September, 2011.

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5 BRIAN A. TSUCHIDA  
6 United States Magistrate Judge  
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